

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

4.1 Gordon Jong

Bill Cade welcomed Gordon Jong to the Board of Governors on behalf of the administration. Having Gordon join our Board is representative of our close relationship with Lethbridge Community College, as Gordon recently completed his term as a member of the LCC Board of Governors.

4.2 Robert Turner

A recent Lawyers Weekly newspaper featured an article and photo of Robert Turner receiving an Alberta Centennial Medal from the Premier.

4.3 Provincial Budget Announcement

A Provincial budget summary was distributed and is filed with these minutes.

Bill Cade noted that he took part in the telephone conference call when the Minister announced provisions in the Provincial Budget for Advanced Education. There was a clear indication that education is a high priority for the Province.

In essence the budget provided a 6% increase in the University's base operating grant budget another year out (to 2008-2009). This guaranteed funding provides a lot of security and reliability going forward. As for tuition, a centennial gift was given to exempt students from paying tuition increases. Students will not pay more next year, but it will remain as it was in 2004-2005. The \$87 Million to offset the tuition will become a part of the base budget. This is approximately a 10% reduction in tuition for students. Future increases will be based on the 2004-2005 level. It was noted that there will be additional announcements from Advanced Education on Tuesday. It has been suggested that the majority will go to universities, colleges, and technical institutions, but there will also be funding for apprenticeships and English as a Second Language.

It was also noted that Access is now called the Enrolment Planning Envelope to avoid confusion with the Access to the Future Endowment.

The Minister announced that Capital funding will be provided for maintenance and preservation projects. Bill Cade noted that the renovations to the existing Physical Education building would come under this funding. There is a total of \$18 Billion for a five-year capital plan, with hopes that this may grow to \$23.5 Billion. The first \$2 Billion, however, will be taken up by cost escalations on existing projects. The announced budget has \$273 Million for post-secondary capital projects this year and \$1.1 Billion for the next three years. The U of L will send a request for funding for cost escalations on University of Lethbridge projects.

The Minister said he was working on two fronts with respect to capital issues. The intent is to ensure current projects are funded and there is an ongoing commitment to long range capital plan approval. This would include borrowing against a spot in the queue. This is not, however, going to happen soon, if at all.

Minister Hancock indicated he would be making a significant and difficult decision whether to continue as Minister past June or seek leadership of the Alberta Conservative Party. The Premier has indicated that Government Ministers who will be seeking leadership must resign their portfolios.

4.4 Vice-President (Academic) Appointment/Reappointment Committee

Bill Cade referred to the Vice-President (Academic) Appointment/Reappointment Committee handout which is filed with these minutes. The term of the Vice-President (Academic) and Provost ends June 2007. Bill Cade suggested that the members of the Executive committee consider names that may be brought to the Board of Governors as representatives on the appointment committee. The Committee will be struck sometime before the end of May and a letter to the incumbent will be drafted. If it is an appointment committee, consultation will be done to determine the profile of the position and a decision will be made on whether to use a consultant.

4.5 Donald Ziraldo

Donald Ziraldo, President, and co-founder of Inniskillin Wines recently visited campus. Bill Cade described him as leading a very successful career as an entrepreneur in the Canadian wine industry, and has recently undertaken a medical marijuana growing venture. A news article was handed out and is included with the minutes.

4.6 Affordability Framework

Correspondence regarding Affordability Framework was distributed and is filed with these minutes. The last meeting of the committee is Tuesday but there is not a lot of optimism that there will be a consensus.

5. ITEMS FOR ACTION

5.1 Budget 2006-07

MOTION: opn.2006.03.02

Keith/McNab

That the Board of Governors approve the University of Lethbridge budget for 2006-07 and approve in principle the budgets for 2007-08 to 2009-10.

Motion: Carried

5.1.2 Revised Page 23

Page 23 of the Budget document was revised to include Library acquisitions.

5.1.3 Budget Presentation

Nancy Walker and Karen Clearwater gave a PowerPoint presentation which was included with the agenda material. Discussion regarding aspects of the Budget took place following the presentation.

5.2 Audit Committee Terms of Reference

MOTION: opn.2006.03.03

Keith/Pisko

That the Board of Governors approve the revised terms of reference for the Audit Committee of The University of Lethbridge Board of Governors, effective immediately.

Motion: Carried

5.3 Endowment Management Policy

MOTION: opn.2006.03.04

Keith/McNab

That the Board of Governors approve the Endowment Management Policy.

Motion: Carried

It was explained that the University of Lethbridge does not currently have a policy of this type and thorough research was done on policies at other public and private entities. The proposed spending allocation of 5% will be re-evaluated over time.

5.4 Policy Against Hazing

MOTION: opn.2006.03.05

Cade/Turner

That the Board of Governors approve the Policy Against Hazing, effective immediately.

Motion: Carried

It was noted that hazing has not been a serious issue at the U of L. This policy is a precautionary measure and a reminder to people that this type of behavior is not tolerated on campus.

5.5 Business Plan 2006-2010

MOTION: opn.2006.03.06

Keith/Bourke

That the Board of Governors approve The
University of Lethbridge 2006-2010 Business Plan.

Motion: Carried

It was noted that this is an Advanced Education reporting requirement.

6. VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC) REPORT

6.1 Tenure & Promotion Reviews

Seamus O'Shea commented that he has been deeply involved in the reviews for tenure and promotions, and there are many good quality faculty.

7. VICE-PRESIDENT (FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION) REPORT

7.1 Student Employment and Scholarship Data

Nancy Walker emphasized that one of the top priorities at the University of Lethbridge is that our students have access to research and employment.

8. VICE-PRESIDENT (ADVANCEMENT) REPORT

8.1 Supporting our Students Campaign

Chris Horbachewski thanked everyone for attending and supporting this year's Supporting our Students Campaign. He also thanked Bill Cade for personally signing all of the solicitation letters.

9. CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

The Chancellor's Report was included with the agenda.

10. STUDENTS' UNION REPORT

There was no report from the Students' Union

11. GRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION REPORT

Preston Williams reported that the Graduate Students Association is currently running elections.

12. ALUMNI REPORT

John Gill announced the following Alumni Honors Society inductees for 2006: Wayne Street, Ron Chambers, Igor Shaskin, Wayne Peterson, and Art Ferrari.

The Alumni Association recently sponsored the Faculty of Management Dinner in honour of Robin Hood. As well, a \$500 donation was given to the Brenda Milner Lecture Series.

The members of the Board were informed that corporate sponsorships are still available for the "Birdies for Bursaries" Golf Tournament in Picture Butte.

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: opn.2006.03.07

Cade/Keith

That the Open session of the March 23, 2006 meeting of the Board of Governors be adjourned.

Motion: Carried